26.   (Currently Amended)   The method for converting multimedia information recited in claim 18, wherein the transcoder is informed of a quantization factor to use in order to achieve a desired bit rate or to re-encode at least a portion of the multimedia information at a bit rate that is a percentage of the one in which the information is initially coded.
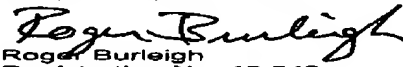
* * *

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REMARKS

Claims 19-26 have been amended to correct a typographical error in the prior amendment thereof; those claims are each now dependent from claim 18. In addition, to clarify Applicants' response to the prior Office Action, with respect to the Examiner's prior restriction requirement, the Applicants elect claims 18-19 and 26; claims 20-25 are withdrawn.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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